

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/083,092

Examiner

Michael J. Feely

Applicant(s)

CLEMENS ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to after-final amendment of 4/7/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,5,7,12,14-17,24 and 31-33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 0406.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Scott A. Bardell (Reg. No. 39,594) on April 17, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A protective article comprising: a backing comprising a terpolymer of tetrafluoroethylene, hexafluoropropylene, and vinylidene fluoride; and a curable thermoset adhesive layer on at least one surface of said backing; wherein the at least one surface is unetched; wherein the curable thermoset adhesive layer, which is non-tacky after cure, comprises a copolymer of (chloromethyl)oxirane and 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bisphenol; and wherein the protective article is bonded to a portion of a surface of a vehicle.

7. (Currently Amended) A protective article of claim 1, further comprising a curing agent selected from the group consisting of poly(ether) amines, guanidines, imidazoles, cyclohexylamine, diethylenetriamine, triethylenetetraamine, cyclohexyldiamine, tetramethylpiperamine, N,N-dibutyl-1,3-propane diamine, N,N-diethyl-1,3-propane diamine, 1,2-diamino-2-methyl-propane, 2,3-diamino-2-methylbutane, 2,3-diamino-2-methylpentane, 2,4-diamino-2,6-dimethyloctane, and combinations thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The protective article of claim 1, further comprising a curing agent selected from the group consisting of an aliphatic polymer diamine and 4,7,10-trioxatridecane-1,13-diamine.

14. (Currently Amended) The protective article of claim 1, wherein the vehicle surface is selected from the group consisting of painted surfaces, primed surfaces, metallic surfaces, ceramics, cured and un-cured composite surfaces, fluorinated polymer surfaces, plated surfaces, galvanized surfaces, and combinations thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) The protective article of claim 1, wherein the vehicle surface comprises an aluminum surface.

16. (Currently Amended) The protective article of claim 1, wherein the vehicle surface comprises a fluoropolymer that is not perfluorinated.

17. (Currently Amended) The protective article of claim 1, wherein the vehicle surface comprises a cured resin.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an article having a fluorinated polymer surface comprising the steps of: contacting a surface of the article with a curable adhesive comprising an anti-corrosive additive and a copolymer of (chloromethyl)oxirane and 4,4'-(1-

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methylethylidene)bisphenol; contacting a backing comprising a terpolymer of tetrafluoroethylene, hexafluoropropylene, and vinylidene fluoride with the curable adhesive; and curing the curable adhesive.

31. (Currently Amended) A protective article comprising: a backing comprising a terpolymer of tetrafluoroethylene, hexafluoropropylene, and vinylidene fluoride; and a curable thermoset adhesive layer on at least one surface of said backing; wherein the at least one surface is unetched; and wherein the curable thermoset adhesive layer, which is non-tacky after cure, comprises an anti-corrosive additive and a copolymer of (chloromethyl)oxirane and 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bisphenol.

32. (Currently Amended) A protective article comprising: a backing comprising a terpolymer of tetrafluoroethylene, hexafluoropropylene, and vinylidene fluoride, said backing having a patterned structure; and a curable thermoset adhesive layer on at least one surface of said backing; wherein the at least one surface is unetched; and wherein the curable thermoset adhesive layer, which is non-tacky after cure, comprises a copolymer of (chloromethyl)oxirane and 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bisphenol.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an article having a fluorinated polymer surface comprising the steps of: contacting a surface of the article with a curable adhesive comprising a copolymer of (chloromethyl)oxirane and 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bisphenol; contacting a backing having a patterned structure comprising a terpolymer of tetrafluoroethylene,

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hexafluoropropylene, and vinylidene fluoride with the curable adhesive; and curing the curable adhesive.

Allowable Subject Matter

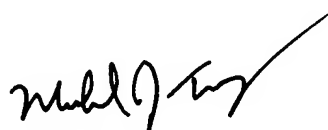
2. Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, 14-17, 24, and 31-33 are allowed.

Communication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Feely whose telephone number is 571-272-1086. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski can be reached on 571-272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Michael J. Feely
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1712

April 17, 2006

**MICHAEL FEELY
PRIMARY EXAMINER**